

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EURE-00 SY-05 MCT-01 DHA-02 IO-13
TRSE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03
NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 /079 W
----- 081658 /47

P R 211322Z DEC 76
FM AMEMBASSY MADRID
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8382
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN
AMEMBASSY DUBLIN
AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE
AMEMBASSY LISBON
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY OSLO
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY ROME
AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM
USMISSION NATO
USEC BRUSSELS UNN

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PINT, SP
SUBJECT: ORIOL KIDNAPPING AND OTHER VIOLENCE

REF: MADRID 9526

1. ORIOL'S KIDNAPPERS ("GRAPO"), IN A NOTE SENT TO MADRID DAILY "INFORMACIONES" LATE SATURDAY, ADVISED THAT THEY HAD DECIDED TO SPARE ORIOL BECAUSE "IN VIEW OF THE GOVT'S PROMISE, ALBEIT VAGUE, OF AN AMNESTY, WE BELIEVE THAT THE ONLY GUARANTEE WE HAVE THAT THIS PROMISE WILL BE CARRIED OUT IS TO MAINTAIN THE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PRISONER IN OUR CUSTODY." APPENDED TO THE NOTE WAS A HAND-WRITTEN LETTER FROM ORIOL HIMSELF.

2. INTERIOR MINISTER MARTIN VILLA APPEARED SATURDAY NIGHT ON NATIONAL TELEVISION TO REITERATE THAT THE GOVT IS PREPARING--AND WAS DOING SO AT THE TIME OF THE KIDNAPPING--A SERIES OF

DECREES AIMED AT THE IMPLEMENTATION OF AN EVEN BROADER POLITICAL AMNESTY THAN THE ONE ANNOUNCED BY THE KING IN JULY. HE ALSO EMPHASIZED, HOWEVER, THAT THE GOVT WOULD NOT GIVE IN TO BLACKMAIL AND THAT TERRORIST ACTS SUCH AS THE KIDNAPPING WOULD UNDERMINE THE GOVT'S EFFORTS IN THIS REGARD.

3. IN A SECOND PAIR OF NOTES RECEIVED LATE MONDAY NIGHT BY MADRID'S "EL PAIS," "GRAPO" REITERATED THAT ORIOI WOULD BE RELEASED WHEN "OUR CONDITIONS" ARE MET. ORIOI'S OWN NOTE AFFIRMED THAT THE KIDNAPPERS, CONTRARY TO SOME SPECULATION, DID NOT DESIRE MONEY, ONLY THE RELEASE OF THE PRISONERS.

4. MEANWHILE, INDUSTRIAL ENGINEER RAMON PASTOR LOPEZ-ANDUJAR, A RESIDENT OF SAN SEBASTIAN, GUIPUZCOA, DISAPPEARED YESTERDAY AFTER LEAVING HOME FOR WORK. THE AUTHORITIES INVESTIGATING LOPEZ-ANDUJAR'S DISAPPEARANCE REPORTEDLY HAVE DOUBTS THAT A KIDNAPPING IN FACT TOOK PLACE. IN AN APPARENTLY UNRELATED ACT IN MADRID YESTERDAY, A BANK WAS HELD UP FOR SOME 16 MILLION PESETAS (ABOUT US\$235,000) AND AN UNARMED GUARD WAS MACHINE-GUNNED TO DEATH AS THE ASSAILANTS MADE THEIR ESCAPE.

5. AFTER A FUNERAL MASS CELEBRATED AT A CHURCH ACROSS THE STREET FROM THE EMBASSY, TO MARK THE THIRD ANNIVERSARY OF THE ASSASSINATION OF THEN-PRIME MINISTER CARRERO BLANCO, CORTES/COUNCIL OF THE REALM PRESIDENT FERNANDEZ MIRANDA, WHO ATTENDED IN REPRESENTATION OF THE GOVT, WAS INSULTED AND SUBJECTED TO VERBAL ABUSE BY A FEW HUNDRED ULTRA-RIGHTISTS ASSEMBLED OUTSIDE. AN EMBASSY OBSERVER REPORTS, HOWEVER, THAT CONTRARY TO SOME WIRE SERVICE STORIES, FERNANDEZ MIRANDA WAS NOT MANHANDLED DURING THIS BRIEF EPISODE.
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6. COMMENT: THE DEBATE OVER THE IDENTITY OF GRAPO CONTINUES AND SOME CONFUSION PERSISTS OVER ITS DEMANDS, SINCE IT FIRST INSISTED ON THE RELEASE OF 15 PRISONERS AND THEN AMPLIFIED THE DEMAND TO INCLUDE A "TOTAL AMNESTY." THIS HAS BEEN COMPOUNDED SOMEWHAT BY THE APPARENT INABILITY OF THE GOVT OR THE ORIOI FAMILY TO ENTER INTO DIRECT CONTACT WITH THE KIDNAPPERS. STABLER

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